

Message Text

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15

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 OMB-01 AID-05 EB-07 TRSE-00 /082 W

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R 170625Z FEB 76 CORRECTED COPY FOR MCN

FM USINT BAGHDAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2853

INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

C O N F I D E N T I A L BAGHDAD 0225

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, IZ

SUBJ: IRAQI PROTESTS BRUSSELS CONFERENCE OF WORLD JEWISH ORGANIZATION
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1. FONMIN UNDERSECRETARY HADITHI CALLED IN BELGIAN AMBASSADOR AND
MADE VIGOROUS PROTEST OVER SCHEDULED CONVENING IN BRUSSELS OF INTERNA

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TIONAL CONFERENCE OF WORLD JEWISH ORGANIZATIONS. HADITHI ALSO
CALLED IN ALL ARAB AMBASSADORS AND ASKED THEM TO COMMUNICATE TO
THEIR GOVERNMENTS IRAQ'S CALL FOR A UNIFIED ARAB STAND ON THIS
ISSUE. HADITHI LABELED CONFERENCE AS CALUMNIOUS TO ARAB STATES
AND IN SERVICE OF ZIONISM AND ITS INHUMANE OBJECTIVES. BAGHDAD
PRESS CARRIED ACCOUNT OF BOTH MEETINGS.

2. BELGIAN AMBASSADOR GAINED IMPRESSION THAT PROTEST WAS PRIMARILY
PROPAGANDA EXERCISE. BELGIUM RECENTLY SIGNED \$660 MILLION CONTRACT
FOR MAJOR PHOSPATE DEVELOPMENT IN WESTERN IRAQ (BAGHDAD 168)
AND GOI GAVE NO HINT OF POSSIBLE CANCELLATION OF CONTRACT.
VISITING SENIOR BELGIAN BANKING OFFICIAL TOLD USINT PRINCIPAL
OFFICER ON FEB. 12 THAT HIS TALKS IN BAGHDAD HAD CONVINCED HIM
THAT THERE WOULD BE NO CHANGE IN IRAQI-BELGIAN ECONOMIC RELATIONS
DESPITE THE FUROR OVER THE CONFERENCE.

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